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1638

**IN THE  
UNITED STATES  
PATENT AND TRADEMARK  
OFFICE**

<i>Application Number</i>	09/813,352
<i>Filing Date</i>	March 21, 2001
<i>First Named Inventor</i>	Luis LOPEZ-MOLINA
<i>Group Art Unit</i>	1638
<i>Examiner Name</i>	Cynthia E. Collins
<i>Attorney Docket Number</i>	2312-109.A

*Title of the Invention:* OVEREXPRESSION OF ABIS IN PLANTS TO PREVENT  
PRECOCIOUS SEED GERMINATION AND TO CONFER  
RESISTANCE TO DROUGHT AND HIGH SALT

**AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RECEIVED**

SEP 23 2003

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Dear Sir:

*INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS*

In response to the Office Action mailed 17 June 2003, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

*Amendments to the Claims* are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper. Material added has been indicated by underlining (underlining) and material deleted has been indicated by strikethrough (~~strikethrough~~).

*Remarks* begin on page \*\* of this paper.